I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231,

PATENT

Kebruacy 13, 1998

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

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Attorney Docket No. 0287S-004830

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PHILIP S. GREEN

Application No.: 08/709,965

Filed: September 9, 1996

For: ENDOSCOPIC SURGICAL

INSTRUMENT AND METHOD FOR

USE (AS AMENDED)

Examiner: LEE, R.

Art Unit: 2615

PETITION TO EXTEND TIME UNDER

37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant petitions the Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated October 14, 1997, for one month, from January 14, 1998, to February 14, 1998.

Please charge \$55 to the Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the above Deposit Account. This Petition is submitted in triplicate.

04/1998 EKURTZ

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Respectfully submitted,

Mark D. Barrish Req. No. 36,443

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834 (650) 326-2400 / Fax (650) 326-2422 MDB:rjs F:\DATA\PA2\AMD\MDB\151131